GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1926
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2008
DIGITISATION OF STONE INSCRIPTION
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Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan to digitize all stone inscriptions found across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to convert the rich collection of inscriptions; and stumpages into digital format in order to preserve them for the benefit of future generation?

Answer

MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND CULTURE(SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) to (c) The Epigraphy Branch, Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has formulated plans to digitize nearly 74,000 estampages (impressions of inscriptions on paper) from its collection. The process of digitization involves scanning of transcripts, indexing of the scanned copies and preparation of a database.